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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Thursday, the 5th August 1965.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU) in the Chair.

I—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Questions 54 to 56 are postponed as the Hon. Minister is not here.

Handloom cloth

* 51 *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the accumulation of stocks of handloom cloth in this State; and

(*b*) if so, the steps taken to relieve difficulties of the weavers—

(i) in the co-operative sector; and

(ii) in the private sector?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is placed on the table of the House.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : In the statement the Hon. Minister has stated that Rs. 50 lakhs has been advanced to the Tamilnadu Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society. This amount, I understand, has already been exhausted and that has covered only about 30 to 40 per cent of the stocks lying in the primary societies. Was there any representation from the Tamilnadu Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society for more assistance by way of loan and, if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : A further request for assistance has come and the Government are examining it.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : The stocks are accumulating every day since the markets in India and outside India are very, very slack. So, will the Government take some quick decisions about giving loan assistance and, while taking decisions, will be very liberal?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We shall certainly do what is right. I cannot say whether it will be liberal according to others' views. Certainly we shall do all that the Government can to relieve the congestion.

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a Printed as Appendix on page 49.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : In the statement there is no answer as to the steps taken to relieve the difficulties of the weavers in the private sector. So, will the Hon. Minister tell us whether the Government have any intention to help the private sector by way of assistance?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The Handloom Finance Corporation is attending to it.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : May I know the extent of the stock that has accumulated?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : At the time when the request was made, it was estimated that there would be about Rs. 4 crores worth of stock. Latterly we have been informed that 30 to 40 per cent of the goods were sold and that the enhanced rebate that the Government gave has been of great assistance in liquidating the stock. Government have, therefore, decided to extend the enhanced rebate for another period of three months.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : What has happened to the export orders from America for Madras handlooms?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is going in the normal way.

State Transport buses

* 52 Q.—SRI M. SANKARALINGAM PILLAI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(a) the extent of damage caused to the State Transport buses, plying from Nagercoil to Trivandrum, by the Satyagrahis of Kerala, during 1964 when the rice scarcity was acute in Kerala; and

(b) the loss sustained due to the suspension of the bus services?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (a) Three buses of the Kanyakumari branch of the Madras State Transport Department plying on inter-State routes extending to Kerala State were damaged on the 9th November 1964 The cost of damage to these buses is Rs. 180.08 P.

(b) The inter-State services beyond Kalaikavilai, which is at the border of Madras State, were suspended on the 10th and 11th November 1964. The loss due to the suspension of these services is approximately Rs. 5,150.

திரு. எம். சங்கரலிங்கம் பிள்ளை : தலைவர் அவர்களே, இந்த நஷ்டத்தை ஈடு செய்வதற்கு கேரள அரசாங்கத்தோடு நாம் எடுத்துக்கொண்ட நடவடிக்கை என்னவென்று அறியலாமா?

கனம் திரு. ஆர். வெங்கட்டராமன் : ஒன்றுமில்லை. கேரள அரசாங்கத்திடமிருந்து இதற்கு நஷ்ட ஈடு கேட்க முடியாது.